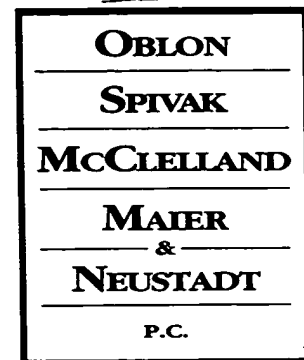




Docket No.: 195942US0



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

RE: Application Serial No. 09/641,892
Applicant(s): Hiroshi IZUI et al
Filing Date: August 18, 2000
For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING L-GLUTAMIC
ACID BY FERMENTATION ACCOMPANIED
BY PRECIPITATION
ATTN: Application Division

NORMAN F. OBLON
(703) 413-3000
NOBLON@OBLON.COM

DANIEL J. PEREIRA
(703) 413-3000
DPEREIRA@OBLON.COM
*REGISTERED PATENT AGENT

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

--PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT W/MARKED-UP COPY

Our check in the amount of \$ __ is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Norman F. Oblon
Registration No. 24,618
Attorney of Record

Daniel J. Pereira, Ph.D.
Registration No. 45,518



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
HIROSHI IZUI ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION
SERIAL NO: 09/641,892 :
FILED: AUGUST 18, 2000 :
FOR: METHOD FOR PRODUCING :
L-GLUTAMIC ACID BY :
FERMENTATION ACCOMPANIED :
BY PRECIPITATION :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 7, paragraph beginning at line 22 to line 25, delete in its entirety and insert therefor the following.

D¹
Fig. 4 shows comparison of the amino acid sequence deduced from the nucleotide sequence of the *sucC* gene derived from *Enterobacter agglomerans* (SEQ ID NO: 10) and that derived from *Escherichia coli* (SEQ ID NO: 11).

Page 7, paragraph beginning at line 26 to page 8, line 1, delete in its entirety and insert therefor the following.